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## Peace and War Measures Before Congress.

(Legislation is introduced into either House of Congress, and bills or resolutions are numbered consecutively as filed. They are immediately referred to the appropriate committees, whose reports bring them to the originating House for passage. The following abbreviations are employed: S., Senate Bill; H. R., House of Representatives Bill; J. Res., Joint Resolution; Con. Res., Concurrent Resolution; Res., Resolution; Rept., Report.)

### ARMOR PLATE.

To the 23 measures reported previously on a proposed armor-plate factory the following have been added:

By Mr. Bradley, of Beechmont, Ky. (S. 3762); by Mr. Farr, of Scranton, Pa. (H. R. 14584); by Mr. Mahan, of New London, Conn. (H. R. 10725); by Mr. Neely, of Fairmont, W. Va. (H. R. 10524); by Mr. Sutherland, of Elkins, W. Va. (H. R. 10087). As illustrations we quote:

By Mr. Barton, of Nebraska (H. Res. 204): *Resolved*. That the Commissioner of Corporations be directed, and he is hereby authorized, to make a full and complete report of the cost of an armor-plate factory and the cost of armor plate and gun forgings in factories owned by concerns dependent upon Government patronage, and that he report his findings to this body within four months after the adoption of this resolution.

By Mr. Britten, of Illinois (H. R. 7841). (Appropriates \$7,000,000 for the acquiring of a suitable site, the erection of suitable buildings, and the purchase of necessary machinery and materials for the establishment and maintenance of a plant for the manufacture of armor plate for the use of the Navy of the United States.)

### MILITARY AND NAVAL.

By Mr. Bailey, of Pennsylvania: A bill (H. R. 9322) to provide a supertax on incomes to meet the cost of naval construction, and for other purposes. To the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Bailey, of Pennsylvania: A bill (H. R. 14936) to authorize, empower, and direct the President of the United States to employ officers and men of the Army and Navy in railway and other Government construction work, and for other purposes. To the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Hay, of Virginia: Joint resolution (H. J. Res. 181) authorizing the loan of tents and camp equipment to military colleges and schools. To the Committee on Military Affairs. Also by Mr. Martin, of Virginia (S. J. Res. 92).

By Mr. Weeks, of Massachusetts: A resolution (S. Res. 317) making certain inquiries in regard to the use of ships of the Navy for postal and commercial purposes. To the Committee on Naval Affairs; passed Senate; report from Navy Department on, *Congressional Record*, April 14, 1914, 7194-96; resulting in--

By Mr. Weeks, of Massachusetts: A bill (S. 5259) to establish one or more United States Navy mail lines between the United States and South America. Read twice. To the Committee on Naval Affairs.

### PANAMA CANAL.

The administration bill (H. R. 14385) has been reported to the Senate, and action by that body is imminent. American legislators have a freer hand in introducing measures than those of any other country, as is illustrated by this list: [*Support strongly* bill introduced on April 30 by Inter-oceanic Canals Committee (H. R. 14385) and under discussion in Senate.]

By Mr. Adamson, of Virginia (H. J. Res. 184); by Mr. Britten, of Illinois (H. R. 4479); by Mr. Chamberlain, of Oregon (S. 4694); by Mr. Fall, of New Mexico (S. 5090); by Mr. Fordney, of Michigan (H. R. 14693); by Mr. Moore, of Pennsylvania (H. R. 3377); by Mr. Newlands, of Nevada (S. 923); by Mr. Newlands, of Nevada (S. J. Res. 16); by Mr. Owen, of Oklahoma (S. 4893); by Mr. Peters, of Massachusetts (H. R. 14661); by Mr. Steenerson, of Minnesota (H. R. 5847), *et al.*

### PENSIONS.

The immense amount of American legislative effort devoted to pensions is generally overlooked. Each year about 15,000 measures are introduced into Congress—30,000 for each Congress—and of this number about half relate to

pensions. The bills are of two kinds—general bills pensioning those who fall within a certain class and individual bills pensioning persons by name. The latter type are usually combined in committee into general bills that are voted on as a whole and constitute one of the log-rolling facilities of the Congressman. To show the extent of current pensions legislation, some of the titles of bills passed by or pending in the present Congress are given:

S. 832, 833, 834, granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Civil War and certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors. Respectively laws, Private 4, 5, 6; also S. 4552 and S. 4845.

S. 4399, granting pensions to soldiers confined in so-called Confederate prisons.

S. 4400, to increase the pensions of the blind who served in the War with Mexico and the Civil War.

H. R. 9116 and H. R. 10250, to provide pensions for the officers and soldiers of the Indian wars of the United States which occurred prior to the year 1880.

H. R. 14785, pensioning the survivors of certain Indian wars from the year 1865 to January, 1891, inclusive.

## Book Reviews.

WAR AND WOMEN. From Experiences in the Balkans and Elsewhere. By Mrs. St. Clair Stobart, Founder of the Women's Convoy Corps. London: G. Bell & Sons, L'td. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1913. 239 pp. Illustrated. Price, \$1.50.

In vigorous, earnest language the author of this volume records the work done by the Women's Convoy Corps during the Balkan war, and argues from her experience there that a body of well-trained women should be regularly employed as an integral section of the territorial army. In the preface, Viscount Esher states that it is not possible for him to resist Mrs. Stobart's plea that the place assigned to women in the scheme of national defense be reconsidered, and agrees with her that the British Red Cross Society has not been adequate to the purpose for which it was formed. Much that is in the volume lies outside our province, but the descriptions of the actual scenes of suffering on the battle-fields and the writer's denunciation of the war system, which causes such atrocities as those she witnessed, we can recommend as well worth careful reading.

The position of Mrs. Stobart is a psychologically interesting one. In the proem she states that she condemns war, and will therefore offend the militarists; that she is accused of inconsistency because she thus condemns war and at the same time pleads for women's participation in it. But as long as the governments of Europe are inconsistent, spending millions on provision for mutual destruction, and other millions on the paraphernalia for the restoration of life to those they have attempted to destroy; as long as the men of Europe lack the courage to abolish the Red Cross work while they believe it virtuous to slay their enemies; as long as men feel it honorable to take life, so long must women's honor be concerned in trying to save life. "For this reason, Women and War—Beauty and the Beast—must make their grim alliance." "Whole libraries of learned treatises on the peace movement, which might have interested my intellect," says Mrs. Stobart, "would never have moved the 'real me' as this was moved by feeling the tragedies that I saw enacted everywhere in that Balkan charnel-house. . . . Until I went to

the Balkans I had clapped with the majority. I had, of course, never doubted that war is an evil, but I had doubted whether there might not be other evils, perhaps of a more insidious nature. . . . I know now that these are devil's arguments. I know now that war kindles, not qualities of heroism, but qualities of brutality which would otherwise lie dormant."

THE WINE PRESS. A TALE OF WAR. By Alfred Noyes. New York: The Frederick A. Stokes Company. December, 1913. Price, sixty cents net.

Mr. Noyes, in this dramatic poem, has produced a really powerful work. In the dedication, prelude, and the epilogue the verse rises at times to true poetic beauty, while the dramatic story is on the whole extremely well told. There have been few, if any, better peace poems written. The title is taken from the incident of the wine press choked with the slain bodies of women and children. This, as well as other incidents related in the poem, such as the crucifixion of the blind man, were actual things seen by war correspondents.

The plot of the story is a simple one: five financiers sit around a table, and at the touch of a bell let loose the dogs of war. They are men to whom

. . . "blood was only a word,  
And the point of a phrase their only sword,  
And the cost of war, they reckoned it  
In little disks of gold."

Beside his hut, Johann, a Bulgarian peasant, stands while his wife hushes their child to rest, then breaks to her the news of his call to the war. Crowded into a truck, the men are carried off, discussing the why of it all.

"So few of them could understand,  
So many of them must die."

The battle is on, and in vigorous stanzas Mr. Noyes describes the ghastly horrors of actual conflict, after which

". . . A remnant reached the trenches,  
Where the black-mouthed guns lay still.  
There was no cloud in the blue sky,  
No sight, no sound of an enemy.  
The sunlight slept on the valley,  
And the dead slept on the hill."

The "Turkish dogs" are caught in a trap and the men fight like demons, Johann, mad like the rest with the lust of blood. He falls wounded, and from the hospital sends home to Sonia, his wife, the leaden bullet taken from his wound. Michael, a Greek, "groping, with blind pits where his eyes had been," bears the message, and as he sings of the grandeur of the fight waged for liberty, an old peasant appears with the news that the Allies have quarreled and are going to fight

". . . "For a port to export prunes,  
For Christ, my boy, and for the Fatherland."

Johann returns to the battlefield, this time to fight men who had been his own comrades, and the tragedy moves on rapidly till it brings him near the path to his own door. The battle breaks around him, and when he finally reaches home he finds his wife and child lying slain under the apple tree—a terrible sacrifice. There, too, is the blind man, moaning, nailed to the tree, and Johann falls on his sword and dies before him.

RELIGION IN SOCIAL ACTION. By Graham Taylor. New York: Dodd, Mead & Company. 1913. 279 pages, intro. xxxv. \$1.25 net.

To have Westminster Abbey explained to one by a

Dean Stanley; to have an Élie Ducommun as host and interpreter when visiting the War and Peace Museum at Lucerne; to be personally conducted at Panama by Colonel Goethals—similar is the privilege of studying religion from the sociological viewpoint under the guidance of Graham Taylor. For years Dr. Taylor has been recognized as an authority. Perhaps no person (with the single exception of Jane Addams, who wrote the interesting introduction to the volume we are considering) is so well qualified to interpret religion from the modern viewpoint of socialized man as is Dr. Taylor, whose manifold activities for social uplift have culminated in his presidency of the Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy. The volume—the author's first one—is a meaty one. Its conclusions are not hasty, but mature, such as could be reached only after a quarter century of patient observation, investigation, and experimentation in the social laboratory of our modern industrial life.

"Religion in Social Action" is not a theological treatise; but when religion is re-interpreted, as it will be within the next few years, the starting-point will be on earth, not in heaven. Dr. Taylor writes from the viewpoint of social science, human need, and religious opportunity. The author believes that the social order can be Christianized, and that, little by little, the race will emerge from what Miss Addams so well calls "the vast and stupid atrocities of contemporary life—its aimless waste, its meaningless labor, its needless suffering." He quotes approvingly the words of Horace Mann: "Where anything is growing, one reformatory is worth a thousand reformatories." One of the tasks of religion is to purify and safeguard the family, the neighborhood, industry, the city, and the larger community, thus creating and maintaining an environment which shall be favorable to the living of a godly life. "The claim of being a community of Christians will not be conceded to those who do not constitute a Christian community." The chapter titles are revealing: "Life and Religion," "The Human Point of View," "Personality," "Effective Service," "Changing Conditions," "Human Relationships"—these are only half of the captions, but they suffice to show the trend.

When Dr. Taylor gets out a new edition, we would suggest that he insert a final chapter on international peace. To be sure, he alludes to "the fratricidal wars which shame the industrial and national life of Christendom." But the present volume, for the sake of proportion and completeness, needs such an additional chapter. The morals of "Christendom" are paralyzed by the present system of militarism. The "Kingdom of God" cannot come until dividend-seeking man-butcherery goes. Religion cannot ignore the war issue. Moreover, we would suggest to Dr. Taylor that in the next edition fewer pages be devoted to exegesis of the Old and New Testaments, and that live incidents out of the author's own rich experience be substituted therefor. An excellent bibliography is given, but the book has no index. This lack should be remedied. These are only minor faults, however.

The book is an admirable one. Given such prophets as Graham Taylor, Walter Rauschenbusch, Winston Churchill, and others who might be named, we may well believe that a new and brighter day is dawning for religion and for humanity.

CHARLES E. BEALS.